

Make 'n Take



Name of Make 'n Take: Parfleche Bag – Uses of the Buffalo

Theme & Topic: The First Nations Struggle to be Recognized – The First Nations Return to Their Languages and Cultural Teachings

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Grade: Five

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Materials:

Book: *People of the Buffalo: How the Plains Indians Lived* by Maria Campbell

Felt or fabric, craft glue, yarn, needle, materials for decoration (sequins, glitter glue, lace, etc.

Hole punch

Procedure:

1. Introduce the buffalo as a main way of life for the Plains First Nations people.
Discuss how they are hunted, who's job this was, how the people were nomadic.
2. Have a diagram of buffalo showing what parts are used for what. Have students label own and colour.

3. Vocabulary – sinew, hide, etc. Discuss and review as needed.
4. Brainstorm list with students that can be created from the buffalo (refer to diagram and be sure to cover all parts of buffalo).
5. Make list on board or as a handout using items that can be made ex) parfleche tools, moccasin, drum, moss bag, utensils, storage bags, cooking pots, etc.
6. Students can choose one item they would like to make or can have the class do same item.
7. Making a Parfleche
 - a. Cut out rectangular piece of felt or fabric. (approx 30x24 cm). Fold at 12 cm and leave a 6cm flap to be folded over.
 - b. Hole punch holes on side or sew with a needle and yarn (until secure) along edges.
 - c. Decorate parfleche with desired materials
 - d. Use as a purse, pencil case, bag, wallet, whatever.